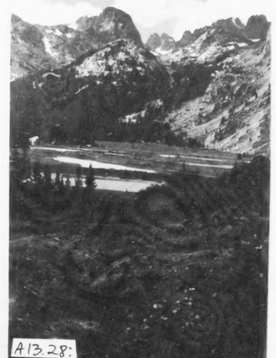
Sh 7/5/990

SHOSHONE
National Forest
South Half



A1328

WYOMING

United States Department of Agriculture

Photo by Dan Ritter

VICINITY MAP

South Half

Shoshone National Forest (307) 527-6241
225 W. Yellowstone Avenue
P.O. Box 2140
Cody, WY 82414

Lander Ranger District (307) 332-5460
600 North Highway 287 332-9071
Lander, WY 82520

Wind River Ranger District (307) 455-2466
209 E. Ramshorn
P.O. Box 186
Dubois, WY 82513

North Half

Clarks Fork Ranger District (307) 754-7207
1002 Road 11 754-2407
Powell, Wy 82435

Greybull Ranger District (307) 868-2379
2044 State Street
P.O. Box 158
Meeteetse, WY 82433

Wapiti Ranger District (307) 527-6921
203 A Yellowstone Avenue
P.O. Box 1840
Cody, WY 82414

ENJOY AND HELP PRESERVE YOUR AMERICAN HERITAGE

Archaeological and historical sites hold clues to America's past. If disturbed, a part of our heritage may be lost forever. The Antiquities Act of 1906 and the Archaeological Resource Protection Act of 1979 protect cultural resources on public lands for the benefit of all Americans. If you discover such remains, please leave them undisturbed.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITY

The national forests are public lands in joint ownership by all citizens; their management requires different laws and regulations based on local conditions. Please become familiar with restrictions by checking with local offices and reading signs and bulletin boards.

It is your responsibility to be aware of the potential risks, have the proper equipment, and take safety precautions at all times when you visit national forest areas. Changing terrain, forests, and weather conditions present a wide variety of hazards. Hazards include, but are not limited to: snow and ice fields; avalanches; landslides; caves; falling trees or limbs; high or rushing water; contaminated water; wild animals; severe weather; becoming lost or overexerted; hypothermia; remnants of mining and other activities involving excavations; and exposure to unreasonable acts of other people.

WELCOME TO THE SHOSHONE

In 1891, a Presidential proclamation placed most of the present-day Shoshone National Forest into the Yellowstone Timberland Reserve, the first reserve of its kind. Rough, inaccessible, and well timbered, the tract expanded into a national forest of nearly 2.5 million acres. Enjoy the natural resources that inspired the first reserve and that are managed under a multiple-use tradition entering its second century.

Ecologically, the Shoshone National Forest belongs to and depends upon the much larger Greater Yellowstone Area which encompasses 15,000 square miles, approximately the size of Vermont and New Hampshire combined. The area comprises Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks and seven national forests, and is guided by a vision statement of goals developed by the various agencies and the public.

Named for its early inhabitants, the Shoshone Indians, the Shoshone National Forest lies in the northwest corner of Wyoming and extends more than 180 miles from the Montana state line down to South Pass near Lander. It is bordered by the Custer and Gallatin National Forests on the north and by Yellowstone National Park and the Bridger-Teton National Forest on the west. Located in the lee of the massive Absaroka, Beartooth and Wind River Mountains, the Shoshone National Forest provides shelter and forage for much of the Greater Yellowstone's wildlife. Covering more than 3800 square miles, the Shoshone National Forest is the ninth largest in the entire National Forest System and seventh largest in the 48 contiguous states. More than half the Shoshone National Forest lies within designated wilderness areas, where management focuses on maintaining the land in a pristine condition.

The Shoshone National Forest offers myriad opportunities to the public--camping, riding, hiking, picnicking, fishing, snowmobiling, cross-country skiing--and issues permits to lodges and outfitters that provide other services such as guiding, meals, horseback riding and more.

The Entrance to Sinks Canyon

Sinks Canyon, about 10 miles southwest of Lander, Wyoming, is a gold mine of things to see and do. The lower portion of the canyon is within Sinks Canyon State Park and the higher reaches are on the Lander District of the Shoshone National Forest.

Photo by Dewey Vandervort

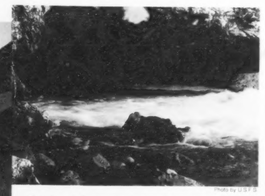


Photo by U.S.F.S.

The Canyon features a geologic phenomenon in which the entire flow of the Popo Agie River vanishes into a large limestone cavern at a point called the "Sinks." A short distance downstream, the river reappears in the form of a large trout filled pool called the "Rise." This interesting and impressive geologic wonder accounts for the name "Popo Agie" (pronounced po-po-shia), which means "beginning of the waters."

Winter or summer, the canyon represents a highly scenic day trip from Lander on the "Loop Road." The canyon walls rise 1000 to 1500 feet above the river with a mix of sheer rock faces, sage-grass and lodgepole pine covered slopes. It offers opportunities to study geology, as the depth of the canyon cuts through some 400 million years of geologic history. There are opportunities for camping, hiking, fishing, picnicking, photography and nature study. Developed camping, picnicking and visitor information facilities are present within the canyon area.

The Middle Fork Trailhead is located where the Loop Road begins to climb out of the canyon at Bruce's Bridge. This trailhead provides access to the Popo Agie Wilderness and is used extensively by backpackers, hikers and horse riders. The trailhead pulls double duty as a terminal point of the Continental Divide Snowmobile Trail.

Low-Impact Camping

The knowledge gained from camping can form a foundation for understanding the conservation ethic and the value of the environment. Those who use and enjoy the Shoshone National Forest can observe the many benefits of trees. They provide food and cover for wildlife, protect the soil and water resources, create scenic beauty and yield wood products. Tree species on the Shoshone National Forest include lodgepole pine, alpine fir, whitebark pine, Douglas fir, Engelmann spruce, limber pine, juniper, aspen and cottonwood.

Experienced campers follow low-impact techniques to protect the environment. Here are some guidelines:
- *Use established campsites and existing fire-rings.
- *Collect only dead and down wood for firewood and tent poles.
- *Wash dishes and bathe away from streams.
- *Dig a latrine hole well away from water.
- *Use a portable stove, when practical.
- *Leave the site in a natural condition, free of litter and other evidence of your presence.

Contact a ranger district for more information.

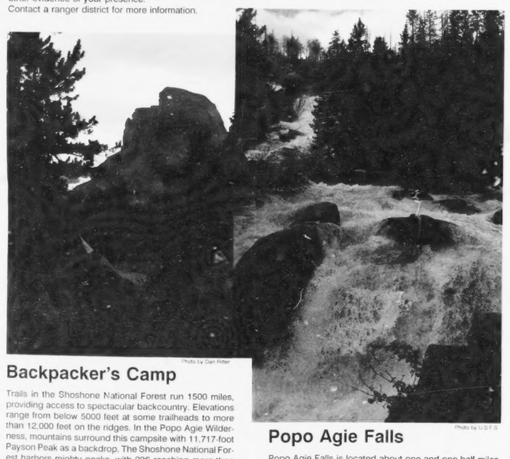


Photo by Dan Ritter

Backpacker's Camp

Trails in the Shoshone National Forest run 1500 miles, providing access to spectacular backcountry. Elevations range from below 5000 feet at some trailheads to more than 12,000 feet on the ridges. In the Popo Agie Wilderness, mountains surround this campsite with 11,717-foot Payson Peak as a backdrop. The Shoshone National Forest harbors mighty peaks, with 236 reaching more than 12,000 feet. Of the 20 mountains above 13,000 feet in elevation, six are unnamed and one, 13,804-foot Gannett Peak, is the highest in Wyoming.

Photo by U.S.F.S.

Popo Agie Falls

Popo Agie Falls is located about one and one-half miles up the canyon from the Middle Fork Trailhead. This feature is actually a series of waterfalls cascading a total of 200 vertical feet, signalling the actual beginning of Sinks Canyon. In the early summer, a large volume of runoff makes the falls a wonder of sound, mist and white water as it plunges into the canyon.

Photo by Jim Hamilton

Mule Deer

Mule deer are the most prevalent big game animals in the Shoshone National Forest. The does, immature males and young fawns form small herds while they put on their summer fat, browsing in meadows and sagebrush flats at elevations of 7,000 feet and higher. The bucks travel alone or in small bands. When alarmed, mule deer take flight with springy, stiff-legged bounds.

By late summer, the mature bucks have stripped the velvet from their new sets of antlers and polished these branched weapons in preparation for the mating season. In autumn, each buck gathers a harem and will challenge all rivals. Early winter finds the mule deer migrating in large herds to lower elevations, where the fawns are born in the spring.

Heading into the Wilderness

The backcountry of the Shoshone National Forest offers many opportunities for enriching outdoor experiences. This group is entering the Popo Agie Wilderness as towering Mt. Chauvenet, elevation 12,250 feet, looms in the background. While users carry out unique memories, they are also asked to pack out what they have packed in and to handle stock in a way that leaves the area as it was.

INTERPRETING TRAVEL MANAGEMENT RULES

1. **Are you on Shoshone National Forest land?** This map shows travel management for Shoshone National Forest land only. See maps of other Forests for their travel management rules. Other land management agencies may also issue travel management information for their lands.

2. **Are you in a restricted area or Wilderness? Restricted** areas are generally open to motorized vehicles on the mapped roads and trails. **Wilderness** areas are closed year-round to motorized vehicles and mechanized equipment, including bicycles.

3. **If you are in a restricted area, consult the Area Table.** Each restricted area has a letter code cross-referenced to the table. Within these areas, all roads shown on this map are open to motorized vehicles operated in accordance with State law. However, most trails and all unmapped roads are subject to the Area Table rules.

4. **Trails marked by ▬ ▬ ▬ ▬ ▬ on this map are closed to motorized trail vehicles.**

5. **Please respect private property.** Many routes across private land (white on this map) and the Wind River Indian Reservation are not available for public use.

AREA TABLE

CODE	PASS. CAR (low clearance)	4 WH DR (high clearance)	MOTORIZED TRAIL VEHICLES: ALL TERRAIN VEHICLE	MOTORCYCLE	SNOWMOBILE ON SNOW
A	CLOSED	CLOSED	MAPPED TRAILS OPEN	MAPPED TRAILS OPEN	AREA OPEN
B	CLOSED	CLOSED	MAPPED TRAILS OPEN	MAPPED TRAILS OPEN	CLOSED

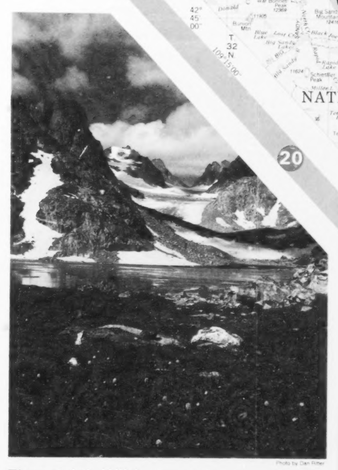


Photo by Dan Ritter

Fitzpatrick Wilderness

Designated wilderness areas constitute more than half of the Shoshone National Forest. These areas are protected by Congressional legislation and the conservation ethic of the Shoshone National Forest. Glaciers blanket many of the high peaks in the Fitzpatrick Wilderness, where the highest mountain in Wyoming, Gannett Peak, elevation 13,804, is located.

TRAVEL ON THE SHOSHONE NATIONAL FOREST

The Shoshone National Forest has established motor vehicle travel controls in order to ensure safe motorized travel while protecting natural resources and minimizing conflict with non-motorized uses. Please familiarize yourself with the rules noted herein and posted at Forest Service offices. If you have questions, ask us! By understanding and observing travel regulations, you will have a more enjoyable visit to your public lands.

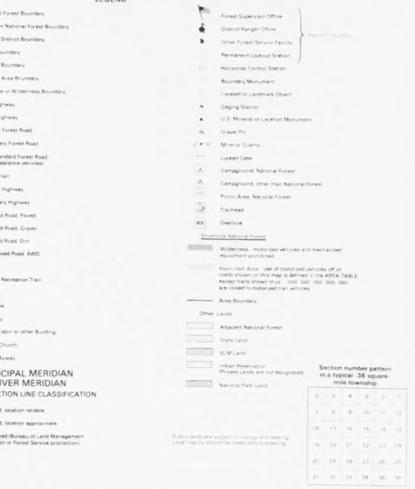
The only rules shown on this map are general and apply broadly throughout the Shoshone National Forest. The Forest Supervisor may issue rules that supplement or differ from those in this publication. Modifications will be posted in the forest supervisor's office, ranger district offices and at the affected sites. See the back cover for office addresses.

You should also refer to maps of other national forests for their travel management rules, as each Forest will have regulations that apply to specific management concerns that are not common to all forests nationwide.

A network of numbered roads and trails will take you into the Shoshone National Forest. They range from narrow foot trails and primitive, dirt, 4-wheel-drive roads to well-maintained, all-weather roads. The map legend shows the symbols that indicate construction and surface type. Vehicle suitability is also influenced by road maintenance, especially on unpaved roads. Forest road signs with horizontal numbers indicate roads generally maintained for automobiles. Signs with numbers stacked vertically are used on roads generally suited for high-clearance vehicles. Remember that Forest roads can present hazards not usually encountered on well-traveled state highways.

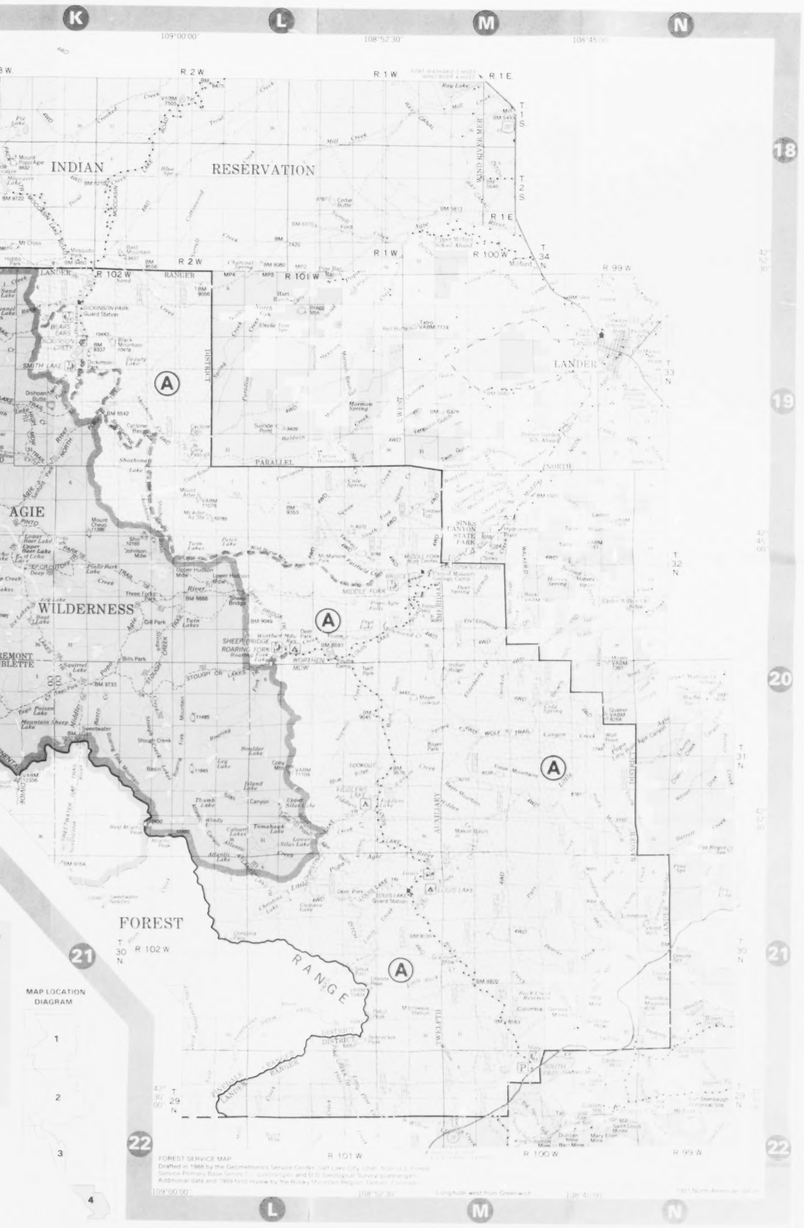
Travel management rules have been established for a variety of reasons. Areas adjacent to roads may be susceptible to environmental damage from uncontrolled vehicular use. Travel management measures can vary with the seasons. Areas unsuited for off-road use in warmer seasons may be suitable for snowmobile use in winter. To prevent erosion and damage to the roadway, a soggy road may be closed until it dries out. **Wilderness areas are permanently closed to motorized vehicles and mechanized equipment, including bicycles.**

Where developed parking areas are not available, direct access to suitable parking within 300 feet of an open road is authorized. Such travel is not allowed if otherwise prohibited or if it would damage the land or streams. Please select your route carefully, and do not cut live trees.



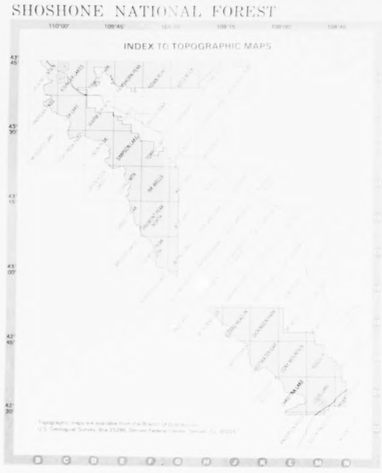
RECREATION SITE INDEX

NAME OF SITE MAP 5	MAP LOCATION	NUMBER OF UNITS	MAX. TRAILER LENGTH	ELEVATION IN FEET	SEASON	FACILITIES
TRAILHEAD						
TRAIL LAKE	17A			7,480		
MAP 4						
CAMPGROUNDS						
DICKINSON CREEK	K19	15	16	9,400	7/15-9/30	A
FIDDLERS LAKE	J21	11	22	9,440		A
LOUIS LAKE	M21	9	22	9,560	6/15-9/30	A
SINKS CANYON	M21	14	16	6,850	5/15-9/30	A
WORTHEN MEADOW	L20	21	22	8,800	7/1-9/30	A
PICNIC AREAS						
BRUCE	M20	6		7,200	5/15-10/31	
LOUIS LAKE	M21	14		9,570	5/15-9/30	
TRAILHEADS						
BEARS EARS	K19			9,300		
MIDDLE FORK	M20			7,130		
ROARING FORK	L20			9,560		
SHEEP BRIDGE	J20			7,140		
SMITH LAKE	K19			9,300		
SOUTH PASS	M21			8,400		



SHOSHONE NATIONAL FOREST

INDEX TO TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS



Wildlife Abounds

From fish to fowl, from beaver to bear, the Shoshone National Forest is renowned for its wealth of wildlife, a prime reason the area was set aside as part of the first Timberland Reserve in 1891. Seventy species of mammals wander the several million acres, along with 230 species of birds. There are 19 species of fish in the Forest's nearly 500 lakes and its 1000 miles of perennial streams.

Photo by U.S.F.S.

Bull Moose

Moose can be seen from many roads and trails in the Shoshone National Forest, especially in wetlands or openings in deep woods. Moose are the largest deer in the world. A mature bull may weigh more than half a ton and carry a six-foot span of flat, broad antlers. A flap of skin and hair, the bell, hangs below his throat and is usually 12-18 inches in length.

Unlike elk, the bull moose stays with one mate for a week or 10 days, then seeks another. When two bulls battle over a cow, they rip the ground apart, shatter trees and flatten the brush over a large area. Moose are usually unsociable creatures, the lone females and males going their solitary ways. Mothers travel with their rust-colored calves, which are born in early summer and never stray far from the cows.

With no upper incisors, moose must scoop their food upward. They graze on shrubs, tall plants, and ferns and, due to their short necks, sometimes kneel to feed on moss or low-growing lichens. Also partial to acquatic plants, moose will wade into water three or four feet deep and duck their heads for almost two minutes while pulling plants from the bottom of a swamp or lake.

Photo by U.S.F.S.

Bighorn Sheep

In prehistoric times, bighorn sheep roamed most of western North America, their images carved onto rock faces by the Native Americans. During historic times, man's preference for the bighorn brought the sheep close to extinction. Herds are now thriving on the Shoshone National Forest.

In the Whiskey Mountain area, the sheep are managed partly as a mother herd, with selected members trapped and transplanted to start new herds elsewhere. Early records indicate that no more than 150 bighorns wintered in the Whiskey Mountain area prior to 1932. The area is now jointly managed by the Shoshone National Forest, the Bureau of Land Management, and the Wyoming Game and Fish Department. Since trapping was initiated in 1949, more than 1200 sheep have been removed from the Whiskey Mountain area and released in other areas of the United States to establish healthy herds. Today, the size of this herd is approximately 1000 animals, the largest herd in North America.

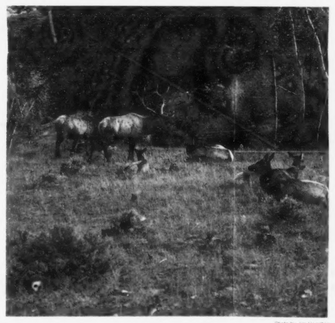


Photo by Jim Hamilton

Photo by U.S.F.S.

Bull Elk and Harem

Today, elk abound on the Shoshone National Forest, though in the past they thrived on the plains. An advancing tide of settlers nearly exterminated the elk, hunting them for food and trophies. Many frontier communities found elk to be a convenient source of meat.

ONLY YOU

Glacier Country

Boasting more glaciers than any other area in the lower 48 states, the Shoshone National Forest has 156 glaciers in the highest reaches. These steeps have borne the grinding assault of a series of ice ages. During these periods, snow fell for countless seasons, packed the mountain tops to great depths, turned to ice, spilled over the lips of hanging valleys, and gouged paths down the slopes. An era of warmer temperatures followed each ice age, sending the glaciers into retreat. The Shoshone National Forest's glaciers, small compared to their ancestors, were formed during a relatively short cold spell only 300 years ago. These retreating blocks of ice abrade the rock relentlessly, changing the faces of the mountains.

Photo by Jack Sanders

RECREATION SITE INDEX						
NAME OF SITE - MAP 3	MAP LOCATION	NUMBER OF UNITS	MAX. TRAILER LENGTH	ELEVATION IN FEET	SEASON	FACILITIES
TRAILHEAD						
TRAIL LAKE	F14			7,460		
MAP 4						
CAMPGROUNDS						
DICKINSON CREEK	K19	15	16'	9,400	7/1-9/30	
FIDDLERS LAKE	L20	13	16'	9,400	7/1-9/30	
LOUIS LAKE	M21	9	22'	8,550	7/1-9/30	
POPO AGIE	M21	4	16'	8,760	7/1-9/30	
SINKS CANYON	M20	11	16'	6,850	6/1-10/31	
WORTHEN MEADOWS	L20	21	22'		7/1-9/30	
PICNIC AREAS						
BRUCE	M20	6		7,200	6/1-10/31	
LOUIS LAKE	M21	18		8,550	7/1-9/30	
TRAILHEADS						
BEARS EARS	K19			9,300		
MIDDLE FORK	M20			7,100		
ROARING FORK	L20			9,000		
SHEEP BRIDGE	L20			7,100		
SMITH LAKE	K19			9,300		

Picnic Area · Campground · Restrooms · Information · Public Telephone · Trailhead · Parking · Hiking Trail · Fishing · Boat Ramp · Horse Corral · Horse Ramp · Fee Area · Drinking Water

MAP LOCATION DIAGRAM

Tie Hack Relics

Tie hacks were rough men, Scandinavians mainly, who used broadaxes to carve railroad ties from logs. In the Shoshone National Forest, the first ties were cut in 1914 on what is now the Wind River District. During the summer, fall, and winter, ties were hewn by the thousands and flumed or hauled to the Wind River. During the spring runoff, they were floated to Riverton, the nearest railhead. Information on self-guided tours of the tie-hack areas is available at the Wind River and Lander Ranger Districts.

Historical and archeological sites hold clues to America's past. If disturbed, a part of our heritage may be lost forever. Sites and artifacts on public lands are protected by federal law. Please leave them undisturbed and report any findings to the ranger district.

MOTOR VEHICLES ON WILD LANDS

They're a real challenge! You know that. But WAIT! Before you head out, think about another challenge -- your responsibility to TREAD LIGHTLY and protect the environment you enjoy. Here are challenges that will truly test your skill.

TREAD LIGHTLY!

I PLEDGE TO TREAD LIGHTLY BY --

T raveling only where motorized vehicles are permitted.

R especting the rights of hikers, skiers, campers, and others to enjoy their activities undisturbed.

E ducating myself by obtaining travel information and regulations from public agencies, complying with signs and barriers, and asking owners' permission to cross private property.

A voiding streams, lakeshores, meadows, muddy roads, trails, steep hillsides, wildlife, and livestock.

D riving responsibly to protect the environment and preserve opportunities to enjoy my vehicle on wild lands.

Winter Sports

More and more enthusiasts are waking to the cross-country skiing and snowmobiling possibilities in the Shoshone National Forest, as those who venture into the winter landscape discover serenity and still beauty. Caution is needed, however. Avoid venturing alone in country that is not frequented by other skiers or snowmobilers. Layer clothing so it can be adjusted to changing temperature conditions. Be familiar with hypothermia's symptoms and treatment. Information on winter sports is available at all ranger districts.

Snowmobiling the Forest

In the Shoshone National Forest, snowmobilers can experience the splendor of winter in the high, alpine areas on excellent trails. The Forest sets aside special areas for snowmobiling and issues permits to outfitters who provide services related to snow machines. The Continental Divide Snowmobile Trail, started in the mid-1980s, crosses much of the southern part of the Forest. On the northern half of the Forest, snowmobiling is quite popular on the Beartooth Plateau and on the North Fork of the Shoshone, which gives access to Yellowstone National Park through the East Gate. Please check with the local ranger district about areas open to snowmobiling.

FOREST SERVICE MAP
Drafted in 1988 by the Geometronics Service Center, Salt Lake City, Utah, from U.S. Forest Service Primary Base Series FS quadrangles and U.S. Geological Survey quadrangles. Additional data and 1989 field review by the Rocky Mountain Region, Denver, Colorado.